

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**Zoom 6:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Warden Danny Muise; Deputy Warden Nicole Albright; Councillors Gordon Boudreau, Calvin d'Entremont, Guy Surette, Richard Donaldson, Glenn Diggdon, Ted Saulnier and Kathy Bourque, Chief Administrative Officer Alain Muise and Municipal Clerk/Recorder Lori Murphy.

**Regrets:** None

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Warden Danny Muise

**Agenda:**

On a motion by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Glenn Diggdon the agenda was approved as circulated.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

Warden Danny Muise asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the floor.  
None declared

**Presentation-Carolyn Sloan Inclusion Clare**

Carolyn Sloan spoke about Inclusion Clare. She introduced the program and offered assistance to the municipality in developing programs and services for persons with disabilities in Argyle. Carolyn spoke about the day program they offer. She also talked about their 9-bed group home which is licensed by Department of Community Services. They will be opening a second licensed home in Meteghan. Inclusion Clare is interested in building connections between communities.

*Presentation attached (011201)*

**Adoption of Minutes**

Regular Council Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2020

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Glenn Diggdon that the December 8, 2020 minutes of the Regular Council Meeting be approved as circulated.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

Special Council Meeting Minutes – December 29, 2020

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Ted Saulnier that the December 29, 2020 minutes of the Special Council Meeting be approved as circulated.

*Motion Carried (7 in favour, 0 against)*

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

TNR

There is no official request associated with this agenda topic.

### Village Historique Acadien

Warden Muise highlighted the request. CAO Muise explained they are in need of less than the original ask, which was \$5000. It is a unique request that was outside of our regular grants to organizations process.

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont that Council approve an amount of \$2000 towards the consolidation process between the Musee des acadiens des Pubnicos and Le Village historique acadien de la Nouvelle-Ecosse.

*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

### **Notice Period-Municipal Policy**

Article C4 -Grants to Organizations

CAO Muise explained that due to COVID staff made some additions to the policy. The changes are highlighted in yellow. The changes allow for staff to implement fiscal controls on timing and amount of grants paid in pandemic or extraordinary situations.

### **Councillors' Report**

Councillor Saulnier: Spoke about the search for Zach LeFave and the regional response. Thanks to all that came together to help in the search. For future reference, Councillor Saulnier received a letter from Kelly Cottreau regarding a project for an outdoor ice surface at Wedgeport school property.

Councillor Boudreau: Wanted to let everyone know about an outdoor ice surface at the Wedgeport school property won't go forward this year.

Deputy Warden Albright: Has been in contact with Search and rescue regarding their presentation to council. Deputy Warden asked if it is a good idea for them to make one presentation to all 3 units. Staff will try to coordinate a meeting of all 3 units.

Councillor Donaldson: Attended his first Waste park meeting and met new members of the committee.

Councillor Diggdon: Attended NS emergency management brief to council. Had a request from Richmond County to send a video of our area. The video was viewed many times.

Councillor Bourque: Attended first library meeting. Also met with White caps to talk about their concerns with losing the YMCA. Attended NS emergency management brief. Expressed concern about vandalism in her community.

Councillor Surette: Wanted to pass on sincere condolences to the families due to tragedy that happened on Morris Island. Using the hall as a base for ground search and rescue.

Councillor d'Entremont: Mentioned the West side improvement society and the huge success and popularity of Christmas tree in Pubnico.

### **Warden's Report**

Dec 7. Mayors, Wardens and CAO's Digby to Shelburne meeting

Dec 9. Choice Housing Committee Meeting

Dec 9. Provincial Mayors, Wardens and CAO's meeting with NSFMI

Dec 10. Met with members of the Y Whitecaps regarding the reopening of the pool. Their program is suffering since the closure of the YMCA.

Dec 14. WREN Liaison and oversight committee meeting

Dec 29. Special council meeting

### **Staff Report**

CAO Muise spoke about the staff report in general. He highlighted some of the ongoing capital projects. Building is progressing well and on schedule.

Most of the work on East Pubnico wells and equipment will be finished on or before March of this year. The last piece is the tank and there is no funding secured yet for this project.

West Pubnico de-watering equipment will be delivered and installed in the next 12-14 weeks. The Wedgeport sewer project had COVID delays as well as participation delays.

Request for expression of interest was posted for affordable housing in Tusket. It will close on February 12. May be extended based on interest.

The Comeau's Hill wharf paving project was not completed in late fall and there is no exact date yet as to when it will happen, but it is at the top of the list.

*Report Attached (011202)*

### **For Decision and discussion**

#### By-Law 39-Civic Addressing Signage-First reading

Warden Muise explained the attachments. This by-law is extremely important to first responders. The post does not have to be one that is purchased through the municipality. The blue reflective sign must be obtained through the municipality.

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Kathy Bourque to approve the first reading of By-Law #39 Civic Addressing Signage  
Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)

#### Nakile – Partial tax exemption

Warden Muise spoke about the request. It is something they ask for every year since they are not funded adequately from Department of Health.

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Richard Donaldson that Council approve the partial tax exemption status capped at \$25,000 for the current year.  
*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

### Speed Radar Advisory Sign

Warden Muise highlighted the request for decision. Discussion about how effective these signs are in rural area. Suggestion of a pilot project for one sign in the Municipality and review the data after it is used for a few months. It would be insured but not sure about the deductible.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque that the CAO purchase one speed radar sign and develop a policy for its use for Council's approval.

*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

### Amend Mariners Center Expansion Committee

Warden Muise spoke about the request. Each unit is adding an additional member. Councillor Diggdon nominated Guy Surette.

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Kathy Bourque that Council approve the addition of Guy Surette to sit on the Mariners Center Expansion Committee, approve an amendment to the terms of reference and endorse a third member from the two other units.

*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

### Award of Tender for trailer sale

Warden Muise explained the memo.

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont that Council approve the tender for the sale of the trailer to Garian Construction Limited at \$19,770 plus HST, with the timing of sale and transfer to be arranged between CAO and the buyer.

*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

### Strategic plan and priorities

CAO Muise spoke briefly about the importance of having a strategy. A strategic session would help guide Council. The process of creating a strategy is important. This strategy will provide objectives to Council and staff. There are many steps involved in creating a strategy.

It is moved by Glenn Diggdon and seconded by Guy Surette that the CAO initiate a strategic priorities process on behalf of Council and the Municipality and present the process and steps to Council at our January Committee of the Whole Meeting for discussion.

*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

*Presentation attached (011203)*

### Search and rescue presentation

Deputy Warden Albright asked staff to coordinate a meeting with all 3 units and Search and Rescue.

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Guy Surette that Council invite the other 2 units to listen to a presentation from ground search and rescue regarding their funding needs.

*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

## **Correspondence and for Information**

### Drought-Thank you notices

No action, for information

### Letter from Minister of Environment

No action, for information

### WREN CEO Report

No action, for information.

### Mariners Center-Audited statements

No action, for information.

### WCRL Minutes

No action, for information.

## **Financial Requests**

None

## **Agenda Topics for Next Meeting/Notice of Motion**

Agenda topics for next meeting-Sidewalks

## **Question Period**

Concerns expressed about attending meetings via Zoom. It makes it hard to get to know committee members. CAO Muise explained that we will reach out to those coordinating regional meetings to try to insist on some being live.

## **In Camera**

Personnel matter

It is moved by Kathy Bourque and seconded by Ted Saulnier to recess the Regular Council Meeting and go In-Camera to discuss a personnel matter at 8:33PM.

*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

It is moved by Nicole Albright and seconded by Guy Surette that council approve to extend the current two 18-month term positions until April 30, 2021.

*Motion Carried (9 in favour, 0 against)*

There being no further business, it is moved by consensus to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at 9:24p.m.

Recorder  
Lori Murphy

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman/Warden \_\_\_\_\_

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer \_\_\_\_\_